

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING KELLY CRAVEN

HON. PAUL D. RYAN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 8, 2016

Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, it was thanks to an incredible stroke of good luck that, when I became speaker, I inherited an exceptionally talented director of House operations: the one and only Kelly Craven. I don't know what I would have done without her. First of all, she knows every nook and cranny of the building, which came in handy when she oversaw the first renovation of the Capitol dome in over 50 years. But more important than that, she seems to know every single person who works here. From working closely with House officers to helping up-and-coming staffers find the right job, she treats everyone with the same kindhearted respect—and she has a tireless work ethic to boot.

But it shouldn't have been a surprise. Kelly has worked long and hard at building up this institution into the House we know and love. She started as a chief of staff to Rep. Steve Buyer and later served as deputy staff director of the House Veterans Affairs committee. She then became assistant director of the House Office of Interparliamentary Affairs and after that, staff director of the House Administration Committee. She rose through the ranks and it's not hard to see why. Kelly is simply first-rate. I know she also once served as a deputy assistant secretary of the Air Force—which is in and of itself an impressive achievement. But thanks to her many years of dedication to the House of Representatives, we're claiming her as the legislative branch's own. You might say we consider her congressional timber.

It is hard to say goodbye to such a wonderful member of our team, but all of us know Kelly will continue her legacy of public service in the next chapter of her life. We wish her all the best, and on behalf of the members and staff, we extend our many heartfelt thanks to the great Kelly Craven.

THE MOST TRUSTED NEWSMAN IN HOUSTON: DAVE WARD

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 8, 2016

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, Dave Ward is your father, brother, trusted friend. If you're from Houston, he's been with you most, if not all, of your life. He's the person the city turns to when they need straight talk, or when they want the no-spin facts, in times of national tragedy, or when they want to relish the success of the country's most diverse city. The longest running TV anchor in history will close his last 6 pm newscast on KTRK Channel 13 tomorrow. He will move on from the only TV station he's ever worked for and he's still at the top of his game.

This year he marked the 50th anniversary of his first day on the job at KTRK Channel 13. It's the longest run at the same TV station, according to Guinness World Records. He arrived at Channel 13 in the 1960s and took the station from third place to the top of the ratings into the 70s and beyond for the next 45 years. Dave joined KTRK-TV in 1966 as an on-the-street reporter and photographer. The next year he was assigned to anchor Channel 13's weekday 7 am newscast. In 1968, Dave was assigned to anchor the weekday 6 pm and 10 pm newscasts where he has remained one of Houston's most experienced news professionals.

Born in Dallas and raised in Huntsville, Dave's broadcast career began in radio with KGKB in Tyler. Then to WACO radio in Waco, Texas, then a stop in Houston and KNUZ/KQUE. He started out as a reporter known for his grit and determination and for talking directly to Houstonians to see what they're thinking.

During his career with 13 Eyewitness News, Dave has reported on everything from presidential elections to space walks, and even the Vietnam Peace Talks. He's covered fires, explosions, earthquakes, floods, and hurricanes throughout Texas and the region. He's interviewed heads of state and traveled to Mexico, Guatemala, Honduras, Panama, Nicaragua, and Colombia on numerous stories. He's also covered several national political conventions and worked extensively with NASA on Mercury, Gemini, Apollo and shuttle missions. Dave also landed a special one-on-one interview with President Barack Obama. In 2007, Dave was awarded an Emmy and the prestigious Lifetime Achievement Award in Broadcast Emmys presented by the Lone Star Chapter of the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences.

In addition to his extraordinary broadcast career, I will always remember Dave for his role in the establishment of Houston Crime Stoppers, which has become the model of excellence for similar programs across the nation. As a judge on the bench during this time, I remember his iconic tagline, "Crime Stoppers will pay a one thousand dollar cash reward this week for information leading to the arrest and grand jury indictment of the person responsible" and that it led to thousands of tips coming into the Crime Stoppers hotline, hundreds of thousands of dollars in rewards, and millions in recovered property. Just a day after celebrating his 50th anniversary on air, the first-in-the-nation Dave Ward Crime Stoppers Headquarters broke ground in Houston. The new facility will be the cornerstone of Houston's first Public Safety and Crime Prevention Block.

When asked to reflect on his career, Dave told his colleagues at KTRK, "I am very proud of my work here at Channel 13 over the past 50 years. I will always cherish having witnessed firsthand the transformation of this great city," said Mr. Ward. "I leave Channel 13 with a lifetime's worth of memories, having reported on some of Houston's greatest mo-

ments of triumph and tragedy, including the Moon landing in 1969, the first and last space shuttle launches and many in between, and the recovery efforts following Hurricane Ike in 2008. I would like to extend my heartfelt appreciation to my loyal viewers, my friends, without whom my extensive career would not have been possible. My 50 year tenure at Channel 13 represents the hallmark of my career, and I look forward to the next chapter."

We look forward to Dave's next chapter too. Today in his trademark down-to-earth style, we will hear Dave begin the 6 pm newscast with "Good evening, friends," for the last time. We will say goodnight to the most trusted newsmen in Houston.

And that's just the way it is.

CELEBRATING INDIANA'S BICENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 8, 2016

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the State of Indiana's Bicentennial Anniversary. 200 years ago, on December 11, 1816, our great state was admitted to be a part of the United States of America, and I am so proud to call Indiana and its Northwest region my home.

I believe that Northwest Indiana is the best place in the world to live, work, visit, study, and raise a family, and it is an honor and privilege to represent this area on the 200th Birthday of our state. I also want to thank my Indiana colleagues for establishing the time today to discuss this historic event. It is always a privilege to be able to work with you, along with Senator COATS and Senator DONNELLY, on behalf of the issues that impact our great state.

Our state and our region have a rich history in agriculture production, and in addition to the value of Indiana land, I believe that people have been drawn to Northwest Indiana because of the pristine beauty of our lakeshore and the Lake Michigan water. We are so fortunate to be situated along the largest body of fresh water on the planet. For 200 years, our shoreline has been an invaluable natural asset that has attracted people and has driven economic opportunities, and I have no doubt that it will continue to do so for the next 200 years and beyond.

We also are fortunate that over a hundred years ago, businesses saw the value in the Northwest region of Indiana and decided to make investments to create unprecedented steel mills and oil refineries. It is because of these investments in Northwest Indiana that our steelworkers and steel mills are able to currently make the best and most efficient steel in the world. No other area of our country makes more steel than Northwest Indiana. Steel is the foundation of our economy, our national defense, and is essential for our

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